## CLAIMS

**1.** A method comprising:

opening media content that does not include a table of contents;

receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;

extracting search criteria from the media content;

searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the search criteria;

displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the media content;

receiving an indication of a user selection of a particular one of the sets of metadata; and

storing the particular set of metadata in a media library, such that the set of metadata is associated with the media content.

**2.** The method as recited in claim 1 wherein a the media content includes a data structure for storing textual metadata associated with the media content.

**3.** The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the data structure for storing textual metadata comprises attribute tags for storing at least one of an artist name, an album name, and a track name.

**4.** The method as recited claim 3 wherein the media content is formatted as an MP3 file and the attribute tags comprise a plurality of ID3 tags.

**5.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises identifying an artist name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media content.

**6.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises identifying an album name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media content.

**7.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises identifying a track name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media content.

**8.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises parsing a filename associated with the media content based on a particular character to identify an artist name and a track name.

**9.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises identifying a portion of a filename associated with the media content as a track name.

**10.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises identifying a portion of a filename associated with the media content as an artist name.

**11.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the searching comprises:

expanding the search criteria to include similar search terms; and

searching a music metadata database based on the expanded search criteria to identify metadata that may be associated with the media content.

**12.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the searching comprises:

submitting search criteria to a server computer system; and

receiving search results from the server computer system.

**13.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the media content comprises displaying one or more graphical tiles of data, such that each tile displays a track name, an album name, and an artist name.

**14.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays a track number.

**15.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an associated album art.

**16.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an associated genre.

**17.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an associated record label.

**18.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an associated release date.

**19.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the storing the particular set of metadata in a media library comprises:

writing the metadata to a media library, such that the metadata is associated with a particular media ID; and

associating the particular media ID with the media content.

**20.** The method as recited in claim 19, wherein the associating comprises modifying the media content to include the media ID.

**21.** The method as recited in claim 19, wherein the associating comprises adding a binary GUID that represents the media ID to a file containing the media content.

**22.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the media content comprises an MP3 file.

**23.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the media content comprises an WMA file.

**24.** The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a request for more details associated with a particular one of the sets of metadata; and

displaying additional data associated with the particular set of metadata.

**25.** The method as recited in claim 24, wherein the particular set of metadata is associated with a music album, and wherein the additional data comprises a list of tracks associated with the music album.

**26.** The method as recited in claim 24, wherein the displaying comprises:

submitting a media ID associated with the particular metadata to a server computer system;

receiving the additional data from the server computer system; and

displaying the additional data.

**27.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to implement the method as recited in claim 1.

**28.** A method comprising:

opening media content that does not include a table of contents;

receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;

extracting search criteria from the media content;

searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the search criteria;

displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the media content;

receiving an indication of a user request to modify the search criteria;

displaying the search criteria to the user;

receiving user-submitted modifications to the search criteria;

searching the database that contains media content metadata based on modified search criteria; and

displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the modified search criteria, may be associated with the media content.

**29.** The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the media content includes a data structure for storing textual metadata associated with the media content..

**30.** The method as recited in claim 29 wherein the data structure for storing textual metadata comprises structures for storing at least one of an artist name, an album name, and a track name.

**31.** The method as recited in claim 28, wherein the media content comprises an MP3 file.

**32.** The method as recited in claim 28, wherein the media content comprises a WMA file.

**33.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to implement the method as recited in claim 28.

**34.** A method comprising:

opening media content that does not include a table of contents;

receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;

extracting search criteria from the media content;

searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the search criteria;

displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the media content;

receiving an indication of a user request to manually enter metadata to be associated with the media content;

enabling the user to submit metadata;

receiving user-submitted metadata; and

storing the user-submitted metadata in a media library, such that the user-submitted metadata is associated with the media content.

**35.** The method as recited in claim 34 wherein the storing the user-submitted metadata in a media library comprises:

writing the metadata to a media library, such that the metadata is associated with a particular media ID; and

associating the particular media ID with the media content.

**36.** The method as recited in claim 35, wherein the associating comprises modifying the media content to include the media ID.

**37.** The method as recited in claim 35, wherein the associating comprises adding a binary GUID that represents the media ID to a file containing the media content.

**38.** The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the media content comprises an MP3 file.

**39.** The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the media content comprises a WMA file.

**40.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to implement the method as recited in claim 34.

**41.** A method comprising:

extracting search criteria from media content that lacks a table of contents, the search criteria comprising at least one of a track name, an artist name, and an album name; and

attempting to identify metadata associated with the media content based on the search criteria.

**42.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the extracting comprises identifying data stored in attribute tags associated with the media content.

**43.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the extracting comprises parsing a filename associated with the media content.

**44.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:

displaying metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the media content;

receiving user selection of a particular set of the displayed metadata; and

maintaining the particular set of metadata in a media library, such that the metadata is associated with the media content.

**45.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:

if metadata associated with the media content is not found:

enabling a user to modify the search criteria; and

attempting to identify metadata associated with the media content based on modified search criteria.

**46.** The method as recited in claim 45 wherein said enabling comprises causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

**47.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:

if metadata associated with the media content is not found:

enabling a user to enter metadata to be associated with the media content; and

maintaining user-submitted metadata in a media library, such that the user-submitted metadata is associated with the media content.

**48.** The method as recited in claim 47 wherein said enabling comprises causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

**49.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein media content comprises an MP3 file.

**50.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to implement the method as recited in claim 41.

**51.** A method comprising:

identifying search criteria associated with media content, the media content lacking a table of contents;

searching a database for metadata to be associated with the media content, the search based on the search criteria; and

if no metadata to be associated with the media content is found, attempting to identify more accurate search criteria by causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

**52.** The method as recited in claim 51 further comprising receiving information from the user, via the Wizard UI, the information pertaining to the media content.

**53.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the media content comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises an artist's name.

**54.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the specific media comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises an album name.

**55.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the specific media comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises a track name.

**56.** The method as recited in claim 51 further comprising searching the database for metadata based on the information collected by the Wizard UI.

**57.** A method comprising:

identifying search criteria associated with media content, the media content lacking a table of contents;

searching a database for metadata to be associated with the media content, the search based on the search criteria; and

if no metadata to be associated with the media content is found, attempting to identify metadata to be associated with the media content by causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

**58.** The method as recited in claim 57 further comprising receiving information from the user, via the Wizard UI, the information pertaining to the media content.

**59.** The method as recited in claim 57, wherein the media content comprises an MP3 file.

**60.** The method as recited in claim 57, wherein the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises at least one of an artist's name, an album name, a track name, a track number, and a genre.

**61.** The method as recited in claim 57 further comprising storing the information collected by the Wizard UI in a media library such that the information is associated with the media content.

**62.** A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory;

a media player application stored in the memory and executed on the processor for playing media content that lacks a table of contents;

a media library stored in the memory for maintaining metadata associated with the media content; and

a Wizard UI configured to enable a user to modify search criteria associated with the metadata to be used to identify metadata associated with the media content, the metadata to be stored in the media library.

**63.** The system as recited in claim 62 wherein the Wizard UI is further configured to enable a user to submit user-entered metadata to be associated with the media content in the media library.

**64.** A system comprising:

means for extracting search criteria from media content that lacks a table of contents;

means for locating metadata that may be associated with the media content based on the search criteria; and

means for displaying the metadata that may be associated with the media content to a user.

**65.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising means for enabling user modification of the search criteria.

**66.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising:

means for enabling a user to submit metadata to be associated with the media content; and

means for associating the metadata with the media content.

**67.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising:

means for enabling user selection of metadata to be associated with the media content; and

means for associating the metadata with the media content.

**68.** One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a computer system to:

extract search criteria from media content that does not include a table of contents; and

perform a search based on the search criteria, the search returning one or more sets of metadata that may be associated with the media content.

**69.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68, further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a computer system to display a Wizard UI that enables a user to modify the search criteria.

**70.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68, further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a computer system to:

provide a Wizard UI that displays the one or more set of metadata;

enable a user to select a particular set of metadata; and

associate the particular set of metadata with the media content.

**71.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68, further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a computer system to:

enable a user to submit metadata to be associated with the media content; and

associate the user-submitted metadata with the media content.